

Appl. No. 09/901,509

Reply to Final Office Action of February 9, 2005

REMARKS

Currently, Claims 23 and 40 are pending.

In the Action, the drawings were objected to as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, the Examiner alleged that the motor drive, first and second expansible chambers, base member outlet, drive train, puller, yoke, eccentric, vacuum regulator device, disk-shaped rotary valve member, and planar inboard surface are not shown in the drawings and must be supplied in a drawing correction or canceled from the claims.

As a preliminary matter, the claims do not presently contain a "motor drive." The element, "motor drive" was objected to in the previous action and removed in the September 27, 2004 amendment to clarify the claim. This observation suggests that the Examiner did not fully consider the Applicants' September 27, 2004 amendment of the claim and response to the objection.

This objection was traversed in its entirety in the previous Amendment and remarks filed on September 27, 2004. Applicants would appreciate confirmation that the Examiner has considered the exhaustive response previously formulated and submitted to address the objections to the drawings and specifications and acknowledge the fact that all elements of the claims can be found in the drawings and specification. Furthermore, the Examiner is reminded that the pending claims are basically unchanged from the date of filing and so form part of the specification, and thus constitute antecedent basis for the claimed elements recited therein. Applicants respectfully request acknowledgement that the objections are withdrawn.

Claims 23 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,139,521 to Larsson ("Larsson"). *This rejection was traversed in its entirety in the previous Amendment filed by Applicants on September 27, 2004.* The paper filed on September 27, 2004, showed that Larsson cannot anticipate the present claims, because Larsson does not show each and every element of the present claims.

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In the present Action, the Examiner merely restates that Larsson (in FIG. 1) shows a first and a second expansible chamber, each having an element which is movable relative to a base member. However, FIG. 1 does not even show one expansible chamber. Nor does FIG. 1 show one movable element or a base member. FIG. 1 does show two collection devices 20, 21 and *only one suction drive unit (24) positioned on device 20 for use in generating and providing suction to both devices 20, 21 via hose 192.*

Devices 20 and 21 do include the following inert collection parts 22 (shield), neck 30 and bottle (not labeled). As shown in FIGS. 2-5, and described throughout the entire document, the single suction drive unit 24 includes *one* movable member 50 and *one* expansible chamber defined between member 50 and part 52 (FIG. 12). *There are no other movable members and no other expansible chambers.* Furthermore, the one suction drive unit 24 provides negative pressure (suction) to both shields (22) *at the same time.* This is also different from the presently claimed invention, which, because of the two movable members and separate chambers can provide suction in an alternate fashion, for example, to two different breastshields.

Larsson cannot provide this functionality because Larsson does not have two movable members or two chambers. Furthermore, the drive train portion of Claim 23 includes an eccentric, a puller and a yoke and *requires that the yoke expand and contract the volumes of both chambers.* Larsson does not have this capability since there is only one member and only one chamber. Thus, Larsson cannot anticipate the present claims, which require two movable members and two expansible chambers and a single yoke actuating both movable members.

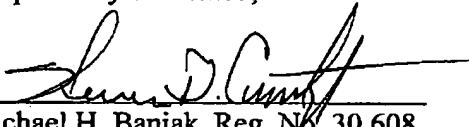
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Applicants have previously traversed both the objections to the drawings and specification and reaffirm the traverse of the rejection of the claims without amendment to the claims. Accordingly, a new search is not required and this paper should be entered since the scope of the claims remains unaltered. Applicants request reconsideration and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability is respectfully solicited.

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